What's New and interesting in the HIPAA world?

This section of our website is intended to inform you of the current happenings in the HIPAA world. Information obtained from these sites is not necessarily the views of Michigan Department of Community Health. This site is updated weekly

Update March 11, 2003:

The March 10 issue of the Federal Register contains a correction notice for the
Modifications to Transactions and Code Sets regulation published on February 20.
The notice fixes some significant errors in the February 20 publication.

The notice can be seen at:

http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/14mar20010800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2003/pdf/C3-3876.pdf

Please make sure to copy the entire link and paste it into your browser.

The correct version of the rule (in Word format) is still available at the CMS website (http://www.cms.hhs.gov/regulations/hipaa/cms0003-5/0003ofr2-10.pdf).

*** *Stanley Nachimson from CMS has announced that The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) will be convening four National Conferences on the HIPAA Privacy Rule. These one-day conferences will be held in San Diego, Atlanta, New York, and Chicago.*

Update Feb 20 2003:

***Two HIPAA final regulations, those for Security Standards, and for Modifications to the Transactions Standards, went on display today at the Office of the Federal Register. They will be published in the February 20 edition of the Federal Register.

REGULATIONS PUBLISHED

CMS-0003-F/CMS-0005-F, entitled "Health Insurance Reform: Modifications to Electronic Data Transaction Standards and Code Sets," was published. This regulation affects All Providers.

CMS-0049-F, entitled "Health Insurance Reform: Security Standards," was published. This regulation affects All Providers.

These are the versions that were sent to the Office of the Federal Register. The Federal Register versions will be made available, via links, from this same web site. Copies of the rules can be viewed at http://www.cms.hhs.gov/hipaa/hipaa2/default.asp

Under the security standards announced today, health insurers, certain health care providers and health care clearinghouses must establish procedures and mechanisms to protect the confidentiality, integrity and availability of electronic protected health information. The rule requires covered entities to implement administrative, physical and technical safeguards to protect electronic protected health information in their care. The security standards work in concert with the final privacy standards adopted by HHS last year and scheduled to take effect for most covered entities on April 14. The two sets of standards use many of the same terms and definitions in order to make it easier for covered entities to comply.
Covered entites (except small health plans) must comply with the security standards by April 21, 2005. Small health plans have an additional year to comply.

Addenda to the Implementation Guide:
The final transaction modifications rule, which will also be published in the Federal Register on Feb. 20, combines two proposed rules published May 31, 2002. HHS worked extensively with the Designated Standards Maintenance Organizations (DSMOs) to revise the proposed changes to the standards, as required by Congress as part of HIPAA.
You can also check the new regulations at http://cms.hhs.gov/providerupdate/whatsnew.asp

Major provisions of the final rule include:

-- Repealing the National Drug Code (NDC) as the standard medical data code set for reporting drugs and biologics in all non-retail pharmacy transactions.
--Adopting the proposed Addenda to the implementation guides with some technical revisions based upon comments received and consultation with the DSMOs.
--For retail pharmacy transactions:
--Adopting the National Council for Prescription Drug Programs (NCPDP) Batch Version 1.1 to support the Telecommunications Version 5.1.
--Adopting the Accredited Standards Committee (ASC) X12N 835 as the standard for payment and remittance advice and the NCPDP Telecommunications Version 5.1 and NCPDP Batch Version 1.1. Implementation Guides as the standard for the referral certification and authorization transaction.
--Continuing the use of the NDC code set for the reporting of drugs and biologics.

--The rule also adopts modified standards for two transactions that were not included in the proposed rules -- premium payments, and coordination of benefits. The modifications were approved by the DMSOs and merely provide explanatorry guidance.

**AMA Gives Doctors HIPAA Help

(November 18, 2002) The American Medical Association has launched a Web-based resource to ease physician practice compliance with the medical information privacy rule. The Chicago-based association worked with HIPAAdocs Corp., Columbia, Md., to develop AMA HIPAALink, available at *www.amasolutions.com*.

** HIPAA Advisory Fall survey results*:* * View the full results, including supporting graphics, on
HIPAAdvisory.com:
http://www.hipaadvisory.com/action/surveynew/fall2002.htm

** Review and compare results of the surveys conducted in previous quarters of 2000, 2001, and 2002:
http://www.hipaadvisory.com/action/surveynew/results.htm

AHA news October 22 02
Former HCFA information chief to head CMS office for HIPAA enforcement The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services today confirmed that former Health Care Financing Administration Chief Information Officer Jared Adair will head up the agency's Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act enforcement office, announced by the Department of Health and Human Services on Oct. 15. Adair now heads CMS' Office of Operations Management; prior to that she was the department's senior official for HIPAA implementation. In her new role, explained a CMS spokesperson, Adair will be responsible for enforcing all provisions of the HIPAA regulations except privacy, which comes under HHS' Office for Civil Rights. Adair's appointment, first reported by Modern Healthcare's Daily Dose, was announced via a memo to CMS and HHS staff.

CMS to Enforce HIPAA TCS Standards: October 18 2002
August 15, 2002 -- HHS Secretary Tommy G. Thompson announced today that the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) will be responsible for enforcing the HIPAA transaction and code set standards. The HHS Office for Civil Rights (OCR) will enforce the HIPAA privacy standards. CMS and OCR will work together on outreach and enforcement and on issues that touch on the responsibilities of both organizations - such as application of security standards or exception determinations. Ruben J. King-Shaw Jr., CMS deputy administrator and chief operating officer, said CMS will create a new office to bring together its responsibilities under HIPAA, including enforcement. Read more: http://www.hipaadvisory.com/news/2002/1015cms.htm

Oct 14 2002 AHA email news: HIPAA compliance deadline nears; AHA urges hospitals to file for extensions
Several indications suggest that the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services are getting deluged with requests for a one-year extension of the deadline for complying with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act's transactions and code sets standards. Hospitals, medical offices and others affected by the standards will have to start following those rules effective Wednesday, Oct. 16 unless they file by Tuesday night a plan for coming into full compliance by October 2002. For details, including information on how to apply for an extension, go to http://www.aha.org and look under "Key Initiatives" for "HIPAA."

MDCH TO CHANGE MEDICAID ELECTRONIC CLAIM FORMS:
BEGINNING OCT. 1, 2002 Michigan Department of Community Health will no longer accept its current proprietary dental claim formats for Medicaid claims filed electronically. If you currently use a billing agent, clearinghouse, or software package to prepare and/or submit Medicaid claims electronically, the department suggests you contact them to assure that the software used for submitting electronic claims is able to produce HIPAA compliant 837 Dental claims transactions. If you have questions regarding the changes being made, contact the Provider Inquiry Line at (800) 292-2550, or send questions to mailto:providersupport@michigan.gov via e-mail.

ATTENTION NURSING FACILITIES:
The Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) has delayed the implementation of the ANSI AXC X12N 837 Institutional v. 4010 claim transaction for Nursing Facilities from October 1, 2002 to January 1, 2003 to allow additional time for testing.

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Medicare Learning Network

- Medicare health care professionals established a website in response to the increased usage of the Internet as a learning resource. For information on HIPAA satellite broadcasts see http://www.cms.hhs.gov/medlearn/broadcst.asp

- CMS HIPAA Administrative Simplification hotline 410-786-4232

- AskHipaa@cms.hhs.gov mailbox for Administrative Simplification questions

- To sign up for the CMS HIPAA-Registry listserv, the site is: http://aspe.hhs.gov/admnsimp/lsnotify.htm

- The final rule regarding modifications to the Privacy Standards is now on display at the Office of the Federal Register. Expected publication date is August 14.
  The rule, along with the offical DHHS press release and fact sheet can be seen at
  http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/hipaa
  Questions on the rule should be directed to the HHS Office of Civil Rights at
  866-627-7748
- Recent CMS Press Releases at http://www.cms.hhs.gov/media/press/current_pr.asp

United Government Services (UGS):
- Latest documents relating to Medicare HIPAA can be viewed at this site
  http://www.hcfa.gov/medicare/edi/hipaadoc.htm
  http://www.ugsmedicare.com

EDI Related information:
- EDI has excellent information regarding ANSI 835, ANSI 837, and UB-92 regarding Medicare in their Frequently Asked Questions http://www.hcfa.gov/medicare/edi/edifaq.htm
- Get the HIPAA Implementation guides from http://hipaa.wpc-edi.com/HIPAA_40.asp
- **Draft Implementation guide for 004500 is available for review at *****
  http://www.wpc-edi.com/healthcare.asp   The public review period will commence at 6:00 P.M. EST on December 6, 2002 and will close at 6:00 P.M. EST on January 5, 2003.

Workgroup for Electronic Data Interchange (WEDI):
- WEDI SNIP proudly announces a three-part audiocast series designed for the small provider:
  A Cure for Your HIPAA Headache: A Practical Approach Towards Successful Compliance.
  Visit http://snip.wedi.org/public/articles/details.cfm?id=608   for more details on the three sessions.
- WEDI-SNIP has several HIPAA forum scheduled for the months of August thru November 2002. Visit their Calendar for the full schedule of events at http://www.wedi.org/public/calendar/
  The Forum originally scheduled for September 11-13 in Chicago has been postponed to the Second Annual HIPAA Implementation Summit, November 19-21, in Phoenix. Selected sessions originally planned for the September meeting will be rescheduled as appropriate for the November Summit. Please visit http://snip.wedi.org/public/articles/index.cfm?Cat=58 for more details.
- The Strategic National Implementation Process (SNIP) has recommended transaction testing prior to "going live" with standard format transactions. To download a copy of the WEDI/SNIP Testing and Certification White Paper go to http://snip.wedi.org/public/articles/testing030901.pdf
- Sign-up for the WEDI_SNIP Listserv at http://snip.wedi.org/listserv/ and join active HIPAA discussion groups.
- HIPAA Resources provides information about HIPAA compliant transactions, privacy and security laws, pharmacy and vendor solutions. http://snip.wedi.org/public/articles/index.cfm?cat=7

ANNOUNCING THE FORMATION OF A HIPAA EDI PRACTICE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (PMS) DIRECTORY
This unique noncommercial and web-based Directory of HIPAA-readiness information from practice management systems vendors will assist medical practices in their efforts to comply with the HIPAA standard for electronic transactions and code sets. Software vendors of PMS and billing systems are invited to immediately join the Directory created by a coalition of medical specialty societies - including the American Academy of Family

Physicians AAFP, the American Academy of Pediatrics AAP, the American Osteopathic Association AOA, the Medical Group Management Association MGMA, and others (see list) - who are being assisted in the Directory's maintenance by WEDI, AFEHCT, and NCHICA. The Directory's purpose is to greatly simplify the process for medical
practices of becoming educated about and planning for HIPAA TCS compliance. The number one goal of the Directory is to avoid major disruptions in electronic claims submission and payment come October 16, 2003.
The HIPAA EDI PMS Directory is located at www.hipaa.org/pmsdirectory . Practice management companies are invited to create a password-protected listing of their company's HIPAA information and to update this information on a regular basis.

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan (BCBSM):
HIPAA law requires changes at BCBSM that will impact Providers, Clearinghouses and software vendors. This section provides important information to help you prepare for these changes. BCBSM is offering Billing seminars for Michigan throughout the month of August.
- Visit the following site frequently for up to date information
  http://www.bcbsm.com/providers/hipaacentral.shtml

BCBSM will begin the transition to standard medical codes and modifiers required by HIPAA in August 2002.
- Medical code and modifier changes Charts are available at the following site:
  http://www.bcbsm.com/providers/codechanges.shtml

BCBSM is offering HIPAA transaction testing for its vendors and trading partners. In order to use this tool, you must be registered and have received your login ID and password from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan. Visit www.bcbsm.com/providers/trans_test.shtml for detail information.

BCBSM has contracted with EDI to provide services for customers to submit electronic media claims. Visit www.bcbsm.com/providers/submit/edi/index.shtml for more information.

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Michigan has all of their Companion Documents on their web site at http://www.bcbsm.com/providers/submit/edi/pp_emcm.shtml and are available for public review.
http://www.state.oh.us/hipaa/statesites.htm If you want to view the websites for all states and their HIPAA efforts.

Have you been looking at what other state's HIPAA web sites Here is a link to Ohio's web page that link to all other States HIPAA sites http://www.state.oh.us/hipaa/statesites.htm